Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of driving a plasma display panel, comprising the steps of:

setting the number of sustaining pulses in response to an average picture level; and

setting a period of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of setting the number of sustaining pulses includes:

setting the number of sustaining pulses in inverse proportion to an average picture level.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of setting a period of sustaining pulses includes:

setting a high width of the sustaining pulse largely in proportion to an average picture level.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of setting a period of sustaining pulses includes:

setting a low width of the sustaining pulse largely in proportion to an average picture level.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of setting a period of sustaining pulses includes:

setting a low width and a high width of the sustaining pulse largely in proportion to an average picture level.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a maximum period of the sustaining pulse is wider, by 0.5μs to 10μs, than a minimum period of the sustaining pulse.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said period of the sustaining pulse is changed in at least partial region of said average picture level.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of:

setting a minimum limit frequency at more than a desired average picture level such that said period of the sustaining pulse is limited to less than a certain width.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said minimum limit frequency is set such that a maximum period of the sustaining pulse is widened, by 0.5μs to 10μs, than a minimum period of the sustaining pulse.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising the step of:

setting a maximum limit frequency at less than a desired average picture level such that said period of the sustaining pulse is limited to more than a certain width.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said period of the sustaining pulse is increased in a stepwise manner as said average picture level goes from a lower level into a higher level.

12. (Original) A method of driving a plasma display panel, comprising the steps of:

setting the number of sustaining pulses in response to an average picture level; and

setting a high width of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said high width of the sustaining pulse is changed in at least partial region of said average picture level.

14. (Original) A method of driving a plasma display panel, comprising the steps of:

setting the number of sustaining pulses in response to an average picture level; and

setting a low width of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein said low width of the sustaining pulse is changed in at least partial region of said average picture level.

16. (Original) A driving apparatus for a plasma display panel, comprising:

average picture level means for setting an average picture level corresponding to a video data; and

period setting means for setting a period of a sustaining pulse in such a manner to be in proportion to said average picture level set by the average picture level means.

17. (Original) The driving apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said period setting means sets a high width of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

18. (Original) The driving apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said period setting means sets a low width of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

19. (Original) The driving apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said period setting means sets a low width and a high width of the sustaining pulse in proportion to said average picture level.

20. (Original) The driving apparatus as claimed in claim 16, further comprising:

limit value setting means for setting at least one of a maximum limit value capable of widening a period of the sustaining pulse and a minimum limit value capable of narrowing said period of the sustaining pulse.

21. (Presently Amended) The driving apparatus as claimed in claim [[51]] 20, wherein said period setting means receives at least one of said maximum limit value and said minimum limit value to control said period of the sustaining pulse.